

# State Vocational Federation of Teachers

P.O. Box 290  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067-0290

Ph: (860) 721-0317  
1-800-378-8020  
Fx: (860) 721-0323  
Web Site: [www.svft.org](http://www.svft.org)

## Testimony of Karen Ivers, Former LPN Instructor State Vocational Federation of Teachers Labor and Public Employees Committee February 25, 2010

### **Re: Support for the States Vocational Licensed Practical Nursing Program and Opposition to suspension of the Licensed Practical Nursing Program**

Dear Senator Prague, Representative Ryan, and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today about the suspension and potential restoration of the Licensed Practical Nursing Program. My name is Karen Ivers and I was the former LPN Department Head at Bullard Havens THS in Bridgeport, Connecticut. I understand that new bills have been introduced this legislative session, and in my testimony I would like you to consider the following important points;

- The suspension of the LPN occurred based on misinformation
- The suspension has not saved any money, instead the cost to the State of Connecticut rises daily
- There is an ongoing nursing shortage that projections indicate will hit Connecticut especially hard
- The suspension of the LPN program creates a wider gap of time when a new group of graduates could be added to the work force and become taxpaying citizens
- Applicants who were scheduled to begin the program in January continue to experience despair and are looking for hope

Thank you,  
Karen Ivers RN, BSN, MS